

My name is Renee Puryear, and I have proudly served our Caritas organization since 1997 in the radiology department. Healthcare is constantly growing and expanding and diagnostic imaging is no exception. We remain committed to our obligation to provide exceptional care to our patients with compassion, sympathy, and with timely quality care. To remain competitive in today's healthcare market, we need to invest in capital so we can provide the latest imaging technology.

Good Samaritan Medical Center has

- Well educated and experienced technologists
- Exceptional Radiologists and Cardiologists
- State of the art, cutting edge technology that rivals Boston healthcare

However, we need to be mindful that

- CatScan, MRI, Angiography, Digital mammography, Cardiac Cath lab, Nuclear Medicine, Ultrasound, and XRay equipment are extremely expensive and must stay current with ever changing and advancing technology.
- A vascular imaging suite & MRI scanner will require a valuable upgrade soon.
- Costly maintenance, service contracts, essential upgrades and replacements are needed as a result from continuous use of our equipment.
- We must remain advanced in digital technology so the physicians can diagnose and view images remotely from their homes, offices, and even during surgery in the OR

Heart disease will take the lives of approx 630K people this year. Cancer will take 560K lives, and cerebrovascular disease 140K lives. Our radiology department is crucial in the diagnosis of these illnesses. To provide easy access for service, Good Samaritan offers the Moakley outpatient center. We have great appointment flexibility with a wide range of days and times available to those who struggle with long work days, child care, or with transportation. Appts for CatScan, US, MRI, Nuc Med, mammo, PET and the Cardiac cath lab are readily available.

Our radiology department cares for 150K people each year and our ER cares for 54K people each year, in which nearly half of them require radiology services. Radiology needs to be ready to accommodate the expected growth with our new ER. This new ER will provide an imaging suite for CatScan and digital XRay, which will expedite the care of our patients. CatScan & Xray is available 24/7/365 and plays a critical role in the Code Stroke protocol where timing is crucial. A head CT and CXR must be obtained within minutes of our patients' arrival into the ER.

Radiology alone employs 150 people, ranging from per diem to full time status. Outside of these 150 employees, we need the support of many others ranging in skill from schedulers & transporters, to registered nurses & physicians. Our employees are the foundation of this medical center and their talents and strengths need to be utilized right here in the community in which they reside with their families.

The last several years have been a financial struggle and the money invested by Cerberus will help us reach our overall goal of achieving the highest quality care with compassion, accountability, respect and excellence. Let's keep our employees, cutting edge technology, physicians, and our patients right here in our community.